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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 CCO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 OC-06 PRS-01 SS-15
USIE-00 USSS-00 SY-05 FAA-00 WRD-01 MCT-01 SSO-00
INRE-00 /095 W
----------201535Z 017576 /43
O R 201436Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3380
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TUSLOG DET 48 INCIRLIK CDI TK/DO
HQ USAF WASHDC/DAA
7025 AIRPS RHEIN MAIN GE/DO
TUSLOG DET 48-5 DIYARBAKIR TK/APO
TUSLOG DET 48-4 ISTANBUL TK/AMT
TUSLOG DET 48-1 ANKARA TK/APO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, LE, TU, ASEC
SUBJECT: HIJACKING OF TURKISH AIRLINER

REF: (A) BEIRUT 1215 (NOTAL), (B) BEIRUT 1216 (NOTAL)

1. BEIRUT AIRPORT SECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE PROVIDED FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF REF HIJACKING:

A. TWO HIJACKERS OF TURKISH NATIONALITY, MOHAMED HASSAN HANAFI GHYZIL AND ISMAIL JAMAL ASHAN (AN ETHNIC ARMENIAN), BOTH 18 YEARS OLD, BOARDED AIRCRAFT AT DIYARBAKIR. AFTER ABOUT 45 MINUTES OF FLIGHT, THE TWO HIJACKERS DIRECTED THE PILOT AT PISTOL POINT TO
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PROCEED TO BEIRUT, WHERE THE PLANE LANDED AT 1547 HOURS WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION AND RUNNING LOW ON FUEL.

B. DESPITE PRESS REPORTS THAT HIJACKERS ASKED FOR FIVE MILLION TURKISH POUNDS IN RANSOM AND FREE PASSAGE TO A PALESTINIAN CAMP, THEY IN FACT MADE NO RATIONAL DEMANDS. THEY WERE INCOHERENT AND

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VERY AFRAID AND SEEMED TO UTTER FIRST THING THAT
CAME INTO THEIR MINDS. ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER
AL-HOSS AND INTERIOR MINISTER SALMAN WERE ON THE
SCENE, A TURKISH EMBASSY OFFICIAL CONDUCTED THE
NEGOTIATIONS. THE TWO HIJACKERS RELEASED THE 174
PASSENGERS AT ABOUT 1630 HOURS. THE HIJACKERS
REMAINED ON THE PLANE WITH THE CREW UNTIL ABOUT
1855 HOURS AND THEN SURRENDERED TO THE POLICE.
THE PLANE DEPARTED BEIRUT AIRPORT AT 2343 HOURS
(NOT 2205 HOURS AS INDICATED REF B) FOR ANKARA. BOTH
AMCIT PASSENGERS WERE ABOARD.

C. THERE WERE NO INJURIES EXCEPT FOR THE
CO-PILOT WHO WAS SUPERFICIALLY WOUNDED BY A SINGLE
APPARENTLY ACCIDENTAL PISTOL SHOT WHICH
RICOCHETED OFF THE COCKPIT CEILING, HITTING HIM BOTH
IN THE LEFT CHEEK AND IN ONE LEG. THE HIJACKERS WERE
ARMED WITH ONLY ONE PISTOL EACH.

2. THE TWO HIJACKERS ARE BEING HELD AND THE
INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING. AIRPORT SECURITY OFFICIALS
PROFESS THEY DO NOT YET KNOW THE MOTIVE OF THE
HIJACKING, OR WHY THE PLANE WAS DIRECTED TO BEIRUT.
THEY SPECULATE THE HIJACKERS MAY HAVE CHOSEN
BEIRUT MERELY BECAUSE THE PLANE WAS LOW ON FUEL.
COMMENT: WE BELIEVE WE HAVE FAR FROM A COMPLETE
PICTURE OF THE HIJACKING AND WILL REPORT FURTHER IF
ABLE TO DEVELOP MORE INFORMATION.
PARKER
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BEIRUT01217
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770095-1121
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770341/aaaabjoz.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 878c5cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BEIRUT 1215, 77 BEIRUT 1216
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 3055062
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIJACKING OF TURKISH AIRLINER
TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, LE, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/878c5cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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